B. 1642.

THE PETITION

OF

Both Houſes of Parliament,

Preſented to His *Majeſtie* at YORKE,
March 26. 1642.

With his Majeſties Anſwer thereunto.

AND

The Petition of Noblemen and Gentlemen eſtated in *Ireland*, and now in *London*.

And likewiſe the Petition of the Countie of Lincolne,
With His Majeſties ſeverall and reſpective Anſwers thereunto.

LONDON,
Printed for *A. C.* 1642.

B. 1642.

THE PETITION

OF

Both Houses of Parliament,

Presented to His Majestie at Yorke,

March 25. 1642.

With his Majesties Answer thereunto.

AND

The Petition of Noblemen and Gentlemen stated in Arms, and now in Lincoln,

And likewise the Petition of the Commis of Lincolne,

With His Majesties several and respective Answers thereunto.

LIBRARY OF THE UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY NEW YORK
NOV 24 1944

LONDON,
Printed for A. C. 1642.

To the Kings most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Petition of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament

May it please your Majesty,

YOur Majesties most loyall Subjects, the Lords and Commons in Parliament, cannot conceive that the Declaration which your Majesty received from us at New-market, was such as did deserve that Censure Your Majesty was pleased to lay upon us, in that Speech which your Majesty made to our Committees there, and sent in writing to both Houses; Our addresse therein being accompanied with Plainnesse, Humility, and Faithfulnesse, wee thought more proper for the removing the distraction of the Kingdom, then if we had then proceeded according to Your Majesties Message of the 20. of January, by which Your Majesty was pleased to desire, That we would declare what we intended to doe for Your Majesty, and what we expected to be done for our selves, in both which we have been very much hindred by Your Majesties deniall to secure us and the whole Kingdome, by disposing the *Militia*, as we had divers times most humbly petitioned, and yet we have not beene altogether negligent of either, having lately made good proceedings in preparing a Book of Rates to be passed in a Bill of Tonnage and Poundage; and likewise the most materiall Heads of those humble desires which we intended to make to Your Majesty for the good and contentment of your Majesty and your people, but none of these could be perfected before the Kingdome be put into safety, by setling the *Militia*: And untill Your Majesty shall bee pleased to concur with Your Parliament in these necessary things, wee hold it impossible for you to give the world, or your people such satisfaction concerning the Fears and Jealousies which we have expressed, as we hope your Majesty hath already received touching that exception which You were pleased to take to Master *Pyms* Speech.

As for your Majesties feares and doubts, the ground whereof is from Seditious Pamphlets and Sermons, we shall be as carefull to endeavour the removall as soone as we shall understand what Pamphlets and Sermons are by your Majesty intended, as we have beene to prevent all dangerous tumults: And if any extraordinary concourse of people out of the City of Westminster had the face and shew of Tumult and danger in your Majesties apprehension, it will appear to be caused by your Majesties deniall of such a guard to your Parliament as they might have cause to confide in; And by taking into White-hall such a guard for your selfe as gave just cause of jealousie to the Parliament, and of terrour and offence to your people. Wee seeke nothing but your Majesties honour, and the peace and prosperity of your Kingdomes; And we are heartily sory we have such plentiful matter of an answer to that question, *Whether You had violated our Lawes?* We beseech your Majesty to remember, that the government of this Kingdom, as it was in a great part managed by your Ministers before the beginning of this Parliament, consisted of many continued and multiplied acts of violation of Lawes, the wounds whereof were scarcely healed, when the extremity of all those violations was far exceeded by the late strange and unheard of breach of our Lawes in the accusation of the Lord *Kymbolton*, and the five Members of the Commons House, and in the proceedings thereupon, for which we have yet received no full satisfaction.

To your Majesties next Question, [Whether you had denied any Bill for the ease and security of your Subjects,] Wee wish we could stop in the midst of our answer, That with much thankfullnesse wee acknowledge that Your Majesty hath past many good Bills full of contentment, and advantage to Your People; But truth and necessitie inforceth us to adde this, That even in or about the time of passing those Bills, some designe or other hath beene on foot, which if it had taken effect, would not onely have deprived us of the fruit of those Bills, but have reduced us to a worse condition of confusion then that wherein the Parliament found us.

And if Your Majesty had asked us the third question intimated in that Speech, [What we had done for Your Selfe,] our Answer would have beene much more easie, That we have paid two Armies, wherewith the Kingdom was burdened last yeer; And have undergone the charge of the Warre in Ireland at this time; When through many other excessive Charges and Pressures, whereby Your Subjects have beene exhausted, and the Stock of the Kingdome very much diminished: Which great mischiefs, and the charges thereupon ensuing, have beene occasioned by the evill counsels so powerfull with Your Majesty, which have, and will cost this Kingdome more then two Millions: All which in Justice ought to have beene borne by Your Majesty.

As for that free and generall Pardon Your Majesty hath beene pleased to offer, it canbee no security to our Fears and Jealousies, for which Your Majesty seemes to propound it, because they arise not from any guilt of our owne Actions, but from the evill Designes and Attempts of others.

To this our humble Answer to that Speech, we desire to adde an Information which we lately received from the deputie Governour of the Marchant Adventurers at Rotterdam in Holland, That an unknowne person appertaining to the Lord *Digby*, did lately solicite one *James Henley* a Mariner to goe to Elsenore, and to take charge of a Ship in the Fleet of the King of Denmark there prepared, which he should conduct to Hull: In which Fleet likewise, he said a great Army was to be transported. And although we are not apt to give credit to Informations

of this nature, yet we cannot altogether thinke it fit to be neglected, but that it may justly adde somewhat to the weight of our Fears and Jealousies considering with what circumstances it is accompanied, With the Lord *Digbies* preceding Expressions in his letter to Her Majesty, and Sir *Lewis Dives*, And Your Majesties succeeding course of withdrawing Your selfe Northward from Your Parliament, in a manner very suitable, and correspondent to that evill Counsell.

Which we doubt will make much deeper impression in the generality of Your People; And therefore we most humbly advise and beseech Your Majesty for the procuring and setling the confidence of Your Parliament, and all Your Subjects, & for the other important reasons, concerning the recovery of Ireland, and securing this Kingdom, which have beene formerly presented to your Majesty, You will be graciously pleased (with all convenient speed) to return to these parts, and to close with the counsell and desire of your Parliament, where You shall finde their dutifull affections and endeavors ready to attend Your Majesty with such entertainment, as shall not onely give Your Majesty just cause of security in their faithfulnesse, but other manifold evidences of their earnest intentions and endeavours to advance your Majesties service, honour, and contentment, and to establish it upon the sure foundation of the Peace and Prosperite of all Your Kingdomes.

His Majesties answer to the Petition of both Houses of Parliament.

IF you would have had the patience to have expected Our Answer to your Declaration (which, considering the nature of it, hath not been long in comming) We beleeve you would have saved your selves the labour of saying much of this Message. And Wee could wish that our Priviledges on all parts were so Stated, that this way of Correspondency might be preserved with that Freedome which hath been used of old: For We must tell you, that if you may aske any thing of Vs by Message or Petition, & in what language (how unusuall soever) you thinke fit, and we must neither deny the thing you aske, nor give a reason why We cannot grant it, without being taxed of breaking your Priviledges, or being counselled by those who are enemies to the Peace of the Kingdome, and favourers of the Irish Rebellion (for we have seen your printed Votes, upon Our Message from Huntington) you will reduce all Our Answers hereafter into a very little roome; In plain English, it is to take away the Freedome of Our Vote, which were We but a Subject, were high Injustice; but being your King, we leave all the world to judge what it is.

Is this the way to compose all misunderstandings? We thought We shewed you one by Our Message of the 20. of January, if you have a better or readier, We shall willingly hearken to it, for hitherto you have shewed Vs none. But why the refusall to consent to your Order, (which you call a deniall of the *Militia*) should be any interruption to it, Wee cannot understand. For the *Militia* (which We alwaies thought necessary to be settled) We never denied the thing (as We told you in Our Answer of the 28. of January, to the Petition of the House of Commons, for We accepted the persons, (except for Corporations) We onely denied the way. You aske it by way of Ordinance, and with such a preface as We can neither with Iustice to Our Honour, or innocency consent to: You exclude Vs for any power in the disposition or execution of it, together with you, and for a time utterly unlimited. We tell you We would have the thing done; Allow the persons (with that exception;) Desire a Bill (the onely good old way of imposing on Our Subjects.) We are extreamely unsatisfied what an Ordinance is, but well satisfied, that without Our Consent it is nothing, not binding: And it is evident by the long time spent in this Argument, the necessity and danger was not so imminent, but a Bill might have well been prepared, which if it shall yet be done with that due regard to Vs, and care of Our People, in the limitation of the power and other circumstances, We shall recede from nothing We formerly expressed in that Answer to your Order, otherwise we must declare to all the world, That We are not satisfied with, or shall ever allow Our Subjects to be bound by your printed

sed Votes, of the 15. or 16. of this month or that under pretence of declaring what the Law of the Land is, you shall without Vs make a new Law, which is plainly the case of the *Militia*: And what is this but to introduce an Arbitrarie way of Government?

Concerning Your Speech, you will have found by what the Lord *Compton*, and Mr. *Boyle* brought from Vs, in answer to that Message they brought to Vs, that as yet Wee rest nothing satisfied in that particular.

As for the seditious Pamphlets and Sermons, Wee are both sorry and ashamed in so great a variety, and in which Our Rights, Honour and Authority, are so insolently slighted and vilified, and in which the Dignity and freedome of Parliament is so much invaded and violated, it should be asked of Vs to name any; the mentioning of the *Protestation protested* the *Apprentices Protestation*, *To your Tents O Israel*, or any other, would be too great an excuse for the rest. If you think them not worth your inquiry, We have done. But We thinke it most strange, to be told, That our denialL of a Guard (which We yet never denied, but granted in another manner, and under a Command at that time most accustomed in the Kingdome) or the denialL of any thing else (which is in our power legally to deny) which in our understanding (of which God hath surely given Vs some use) is not fit to be granted, should be any excuse for so dangerous concourse of people, which not onely in Our apprehension, but (We beleeve) in the interpretation of Law it selfe, hath beene alwaies held most tumultuous and seditious. And We must wonder, what, and whence comes the Instructions and Informations that those people have, who can so easily thinke themselves obliged by the Protestation to assemble in such a manner for the defence of Priviledges, which cannot be so clearly knowne to any of them, and so negligently passe over the consideration, and defence of our Rights so beneficiall and necessary for themselves, and scarce unknowne to any of them, which by their Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy (and even by the same Protestation) they are at least equally obliged to defend. And what interruptions such kinde of assemblies may bee to the freedome of future Parliaments (if not seasonably discountenanced and suppressed) Wee must advise you to consider, as likewise whether both Our powers may not by such meanes bee usurped, by hands not trusted by the constitution of this Kingdome. For Our Guard, We referre you to Our answer to your Declaration.

By that question of violating your Lawes; By which We endeavoured to expresse Our care and resolution to observe them; We did not expect you would have beene invited to have looked backe so many yeares, for which you have had so ample reparation; Neither looked We to be reproached with the Actions of Our Ministers (then against the Lawes) whilst We expresse so great a zeale for the present defence of them, it being Our Resolution, upon observation of the mischiefe which then grew by Arbitrary power (though made plausible to Vs by the suggestions of necessity and imminent danger, and take you heed ye fall not into the same errour upon the same suggestions) hereafter to keep the Rule Our self, & to Our power require the same from all others: But above all We must be most sensible of what you cast upon Vs, for requitall of those good Bills you cannot deny. We have denied any such designe, and as God almighty must judge in that point betweene Vs, who knowes Our upright intentions at the passing those Lawes: So in the meane time We defie the Divell to prove that there was any designe (with Our knowledge or privity) in or about the time of passing those Bills, that had it taken effect could have deprived Our Subjects of fruit of them: And therefore We demand full reparation in this point, that We may be cleared in the sight of all the world, and chiefly in the eyes of our loving Subjects, from so notorious and false an imputation as this is.

We are far from denying what you have done, For We acknowledge the charge our

people have ſuſtained in keeping the two Armies, and in relieving *Ireland*, of the which We are ſo ſenſible, that in regard of thoſe great Burthens Our People have undergone, We have and do patiently ſuffer thoſe extreme perſonall wants, as Our Predeceſſours have been ſeldome put to, rather then We would preſs upon them; which We hope (in time) will be conſidered on your parts.

In Our offer of a Generall Pardon, Our intent was to compoſe and ſecure the generall condition of Our Subjects, conceiving that in theſe times of great Diſtractions, the good Lawes of the Land have not been enough obſerved; But it is a ſtrange world when Princes Profered Favors are counted Reproaches: yet if you like not this Our offer We have done.

Concerning any Diſcourſes of Forreign Forces, though We have given you a full Anſwer in Ours to your laſt Declaration, yet We muſt tell you, We have neither ſo ill an opinion of Our own merit, or the Affections of Our good Subjects, as to think Our ſelf in need of any Forreign Force to preſerve Vs from Oppreſſion (and We ſhall not need for any other purpoſe) but are confident (through Gods providence) not to want the good wiſhes and aſſiſtance of the whole Kingdome, being reſolved to build upon that ſure Foundation, the Law of the Land. And We take it very ill that any generall Diſcourſes betweene an unknown Perſon and a Mariner, or inferences upon Letters ſhould be able to prevail in matters ſo improbable in themſelves, and ſcandalous to Vs, for which We cannot but likewiſe ask Reparation, not onely for the vindicating of Our Own Honour, but alſo therby to ſettle the mindes of Our Subjects, whoſe Feares and Iealouſies would ſoon vaniſh, were they not fed and maintained by ſuch falſe and malicious Rumours as theſe.

For our return to Our Parliament, We have given you a full Anſwer in Ours to your Declaration, and you ought to look on Vs as not gone but driven (We ſay not by you, yet) from you. And if it be not ſo eaſie for you to make Our Reſidence in London ſo ſafe as We could deſire, We are, and will be contented that Our Parliament be adjourned to ſuch a place, where We may be fitly and ſafely with you. For though we are not pleaſed to be at this diſtance, yet yee are not to expect Our Preſence, Vntill ye ſhall both ſecure Vs concerning Our juſt apprehenſions of Tumultuaty inſolencies, And likewiſe give Vs ſatisfaction for thoſe Inſupportable and Inſolent Scandals that are raiſed upon Vs.

To conclude, As We have or ſhall not Refuſe any way agreeable to Iuſtice or Honour, which ſhall be offered to Vs for the begetting a right underſtanding between Vs, So We are Reſolved, that no ſtreights or neceſſities (to which We may be driven) ſhall ever compell Vs to do that, which the Reaſon and Vnderſtanding that God hath given Vs, and Our Honour and Intereſt, with which God hath truſted Vs for the good of Our Poſterity and Kingdoms, ſhall render unpleaſant and grievous unto Vs.

And We aſſure you that (how meanly ſoever you are pleaſed to value the diſcharge of Our publique dutie) We are ſo Conſcious ſo to Our ſelf of having done Our part, ſince this Parliament, that in whatſoever condition We now ſtand, We are confident of the continued Protection from Almighty God, and the conſtant gratitude, obedience, and affection from Our people: And We ſhall truſt God with all.

To the Kings most Excellent Majestie,

The humble Petition of divers Noblemen and Gentlemen Estated in *Ireland*, now at *London*.

Humbly sheweth,

THat most of Your Petitioners and many thousands of Your Majesties most faithfull Subjects, and late Inhabitants of Your Kingdom of Ireland, being robbed, and spoiled of all their Substance, and thereby many of them reduced to a most miserable condition, who formerly faithfully served Your Majestie, are now inforced to flie into this Kingdom, by occasion of the unexampled, bloodie, & unhuman cruelties of the Rebels of that Kingdom, who through the instigatiō of Popish Priests, Friers, & Jesuits and other malignant persons, have risen in Arms in that Kingdom against Your Majesties Crown and Dignity, and destroyed, or banished almost all Your Majesties loyall and dutifull Subjects the Protestants there, for no other cause, but for that they do not worship God after their Idolatrous and Superstitious manner, which is manifest by their publike Declarations, Speeches, Oathes, and Confederacies, (albeit some few other fond pretences are added, to glosse their most barbarous actions) That these four monthes past, the expectation of powerfull Supplies, Treasure, and Ammunition, from England and Scotland, hath supported the drooping and languishing spirits of your Petitioners and others the Protestants, interessed in that Kingdom, who finding but small Succours hitherto sent thither, notwithstanding the several all Orders of both Houses of Parliament, do now with unspeakable grief of heart, apprehend nothing but despaire of ever being restored to their habitations, if Your Majestie be not graciously pleased to give life and power to the painfull endeavours of both Houses of Parliament, the prosecutio of that War necessarily requiring a great sum of money to be presently raised. And in all humility, The Petitioners conceive, the Act lately passed by Your Majesties Royall Grace and goodnesse, (upon the Propositions made by those who shall adventure their Monys) to be the onely way left for raising present Money for that work: And they finde that the removall of Your Sacred Majesty to places so remote, and distant from the Parliament, doth much discourage the Adventurers in advancing Monys for effectuall proceeding in the work, and consequently will be a means, unavoidably to retard the long expected Supplies, contrary to Your Majesties Royall intentions often expressed, and will much encourage the Rebells, and their adherents in that Kingdom and may in the opinion of some, (as they faine) gain a belief of those false reports, which divers of the Rebells have taken the boldnesse to raise, even very lately since the publishing of Your Majesties Proclamation for suppressing the Rebells, That they are Your Majesties Souldiers & that the supplies that arrived there, were but the Parliament supplies. And Your further Petitioners humbly shew, That if strong Forces be not presently raised, & transported thither, (the season of the yeer now serving) the British and Protestants in that Kingdom cannot long Subsist, but will be extirpated, and Papists, and the Idolatrous Masse thereby established, which is already publikely used in most of the Churches of that Kingdom.

May it therefore please Your most Sacred Majestie, to reflect upon the desperate, and miserable condition of that poor Kingdom, and weighing the Premisses and other the Consequences of delaying the effectuall setting forth of the War against the Rebells in Ireland, of Your Princely goodnesse and wisdom, to vouchsafe Your Majesties presence unto Your Parliament, for the encouragement of the Adventurers, and all other Your Majesties good Subjects, in this Pious work; for the discouragement of the Rebells, and for expediting such further Acts, Commissions, and Warrants to issue, as shall be requisite for the preservation of the remnant of Your good Subjects, the Protestants yet left in Ireland, or driven for the present thence.

And Your Suppliants will pray, &c.

To the Kings most excellent Majesty,

The humble Petition of His Majesties loving subjects in the County of

LINCOLNE.

IN all humility representing at our thankfullest acknowledgements to God, and to Your Majesty of the great blessings which we have for these many yeares enjoyed under your gracious government, and particularly the blessed fruits of this present Parliament, by your Majesties wisdome and goodnesse assembled, whereby many wholsome Lawes have been enacted, for the great Honour of your Majesty, reliefe of your people, the prosperous government of this, and happy setling of the late troubles in both Kingdomes: So our saddest Regrete for any the least misunderstanding and differences which have happened betwixt your sacred Majesty, and the said Parliament, or any Members of the same, with our many distractions thereupon, and feares of the utter ruine of your Majesty, and your Royall Posterity and Kingdomes, by the malicious and insolent Designes of the Popish party, and the advantage that forraigne enemies may easily take thereby.

Humbly prostrating our selves at your Majesties feet, most affectionately pray, that your Majesty and Parliament may by all good meanes be firmly united. And for that purpose you would graciously please to reside neere, and listen unto the faithfull counsels of your said Parliament, whereby Romish Idolatry and Superstition may bee extirpated, Church and Common-wealth duly reformed, the true Religion and all things else setled in a blessed peace under your Majesties government. And we shall have still further cause to continue our cheerfull aids, both of persons and estates for your Majesties and your Kingdomes prosperity and honour. And ever pray for your Majesties long and happy Reigne over us.

His Majesties answer to the two former Petitions.

At the Court at York 28. *Martii*, 1642.

HIs Majesty hath given me expresse command to give you this His answer to your Petitions, That this Petition (as some others of this nature) is grounded upon mis-information, and (being grieved & highly offended, to see how his good people have been and are abused, by false rumours and intelligences, which have procured causlesse feares and apprehensions) referres the Petitioners to the two Answers He hath given to His Parliament, *viz.* to the Declaration presented to Him at *Newmarket*, and to the Petition presented to Him the 26. of this Moneth at *Yorke*: wherein you will clearly perceive that His Majesty is not gone, but driven from His Parliament; And therefore His Majesty hath reason to thinke, that now (understanding the love He beares to, and confidence He hath of His peoples fidelity; as likewise His constant resolution for the maintaining of, and governing by the Lawes of the Land) you may finde reason to Petition the Parliament to comply with His Majesties just Desires, and gracious Offers, this being the onely way safely and speedily to cure the present Distractions of this Kingdome, and (with Gods blessing) to put a happy end to the Irish Rebellion, for the effecting whereof (as His Majesty hath often said) He will neither spare paines, nor decline any hazard of His Person or Fortune.

Signed by Mr. Secretary Nicholas.

FINIS.

UNION THEOLOGICAL SE
New York